

# THE PROSPECTOR



Vol. 9, No. 10

Serving the Corps for 75 Years  
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

May 28, 2020

**Desert critters: Watch your step**  
**Recreation opens up**  
**COVID-19 fraud**







Photo by: Keith Hayes

Corporals Dereck Rivera and Collin SanFelice dish up orange chicken, fried rice and chow mein during the Single Marine Program luncheon held at the Recreation and Auto Skills Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 21. The luncheons are run by A.J. Jacobs, Single Marine Program coordinator with Marine Corps Community Services, and are an opportunity to provide nourishment, camaraderie and fun for the single Marines on base.

## On The Cover:

Front cover: Laurie Pearson

As part of their Memorial Day fun, 9-year-old Kipp Eli Keller clings to his mother, Kristy Keller, as she tosses her youngest son, 5-year-old Cuyler Smith Keller over the over the water at Oasis Pool and Water Park, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 27. The pool has reopened for those with base access, with new requirements to ensure the safety of everyone using the facility.



THE PROSPECTOR

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## On the web

Links in this publication are interactive in the online version

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

[http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB\\_Barstow](http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow)

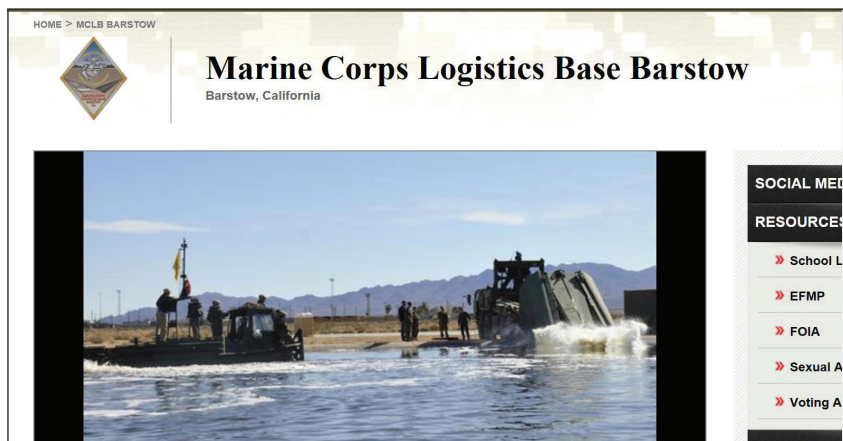






Photo by: Keith Hayes

Residents and supporters of the Veterans Home of California-Barstow gather in front of the Home to cheer on those who turned out by the thousands on motorcycles, cars and off-road vehicles to show their support of the 24-year-old Veterans Home, on Memorial Day, May 25. Official estimates of the turnout are between 5,000 and 7,000 people from as far away as Arizona and Washington state. "Myself and (33rd State District Assemblyman) Jay Obernolte said a few words, (Barstow Fire District Captain) Nick DiNapoli sang, and (Barstow Community

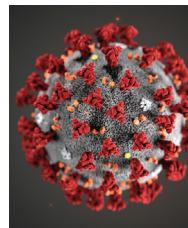
College Board of Trustees President) Tim Heiden said a prayer, and we got this rally underway," Barstow Mayor Julie Hackbarth-McIntyre said. The motorcade was led by Hackbarth-McIntyre in the first vehicle filed past the Veterans Home in front of cheering people lining the sidewalks and roads, each waving an American flag, a banner of their respective Armed Service branch, the California state flag, or a combination of the above to cheer on the event.

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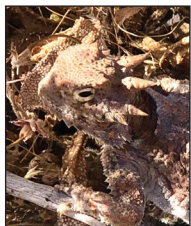
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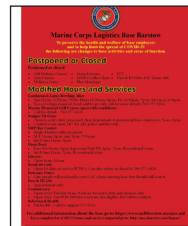
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# Information & Briefs

## MARADMIN 136/20 HQMC SEMPER FIT SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR 2020 ALL-MARINE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM

Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) Semper Fit is seeking applications from Marines interested in participating on the 2020 All-Marine Men's and Women's Golf Team. The All-Marine Men's and Women's Golf Team consist of six men and three women and will be selected by trials held at Fort Belvoir, Va. from 6 – 12 September 2020. The team selected from the trial will compete at the Armed Forces Golf Championship 13 – 17 September 2020 at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Interested Marines must submit an online application to HQMC no later than July 27, 2020. The All-Marine online application system can be accessed from [www.usmc-mccs.org/services/fitness/all-marine-sports](http://www.usmc-mccs.org/services/fitness/all-marine-sports). Marines must create an account before accessing the application system. Applications must contain command endorsement. For any technical issues with the All-Marine online application system please contact the point of contact.

Golfers must have a handicap of 3 or less for men and 20 or less for women. Applications must include a copy of a valid United States Golf Association handicap card and all competitive results from the past two years to be considered.

To participate, Marines are required to have a valid Government Travel Charge Card, and an active  
**4** Defense Travel System account.

## SECDEF MEMORANDUM DATED 20 APRIL 2020 MODIFICATION AND REISSUANCE OF DOD RESPONSE TO COVID-19

### TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS EXTENDED FOR DOD

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) continues to present significant risk to our forces as the DD considers domestic and overseas personnel travel. These movements present the threat of spreading COVID-19 within our ranks and communities. My priorities remain - protecting our Service members, DoD civilians, and families; safeguarding our national security capabilities; and supporting the whole-of-nation response.

Effective immediately, this memorandum cancels references (a), (b), and (c) and reissues travel restriction guidance for DoD Components that will remain in effect until June 30, 2020.

*For further details, see the full memorandum sent out via Widest Dissemination email 20 April 2020.*

## Summer Energy Conservation Message

Get an evaporative cooler tune-up! You should schedule this maintenance to be done every spring. During the tune-up, your technician will clean the system, lubricate the pulley, perform preventative maintenance, replace pads, ensure proper water movement through the pads, and take other steps to optimize the energy efficiency of the unit, and prevent any sudden breakdowns.

## COVID-19 COMMUNITY DRIVE-THROUGH TESTING EVENTS

In efforts to provide more Novel Coronavirus 2019, COVID-19, testing opportunities for San Bernardino County residents, community drive-through testing events are being held throughout the county. At these drive-through testing events, samples are collected by public health professionals by inserting a nasal swab up the nostril. These samples are then sent to a laboratory for COVID-19 testing. All persons must meet criteria to be tested. Events are free of charge and do not require health insurance.

Additional events and event details will be announced as they are confirmed. Please remember, if you are showing symptoms of COVID-19, you can still call your doctor and they can determine if you need testing.

The next community drive through event, in Barstow, will take place at the following location:

### Barstow – Barstow Sports Park

2800 Mayor Katy Pkwy.,  
Barstow  
June 3  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Appointment only.**

**Details will be announced as they become available.**



# Manpower force shaping in support of force design phase one: MARADMINs Number: 302/20

This MARADMIN provides an overview of the manpower force shaping authorities and tools Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&RA) plans to use to conduct its active duty end strength reduction in accordance with Force Design Phase One requirements.

These force shaping authorities and tools are only for Marines in the following MOSs:

Enlisted: 1812 Armor Marine (fully divest), 1869 Senior Armor SNCO (fully divest), and 2146 Main Battle Tank (MBT) Repairer/Technician (fully divest).

Officers: 1802 Tank Officer (fully divest), 5803 Military Police Officer (reduction), 2110 Ordnance Vehicle Maintenance Officer (reduction), and 5805 Criminal Investigation Officer (reduction).

At present, other MOSs do not require active force shaping measures. M&RA will publish guidance if subsequent phases of Force Design require the use of these measures for Marines in additional MOSs.

M&RA will continue to maximize the use of accessions and MOS assignments, First Term Alignment Plan (FTAP) and Subsequent Term Alignment Plan (STAP) retention, career designation, promotions, lateral moves, natural attrition, and service limitations.

For those MOSs listed above, M&RA will maximize the use of inter-service transfers (IST) and voluntary authorities such as Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA), and Time-in-Grade Waivers; the use of involuntary tools may also be used, as necessary.

Details of these authorities and tools not provided in this MARADMIN will be outlined in future MARADMINs scheduled for release starting June 2020.

Marines may separate from the Marine Corps in accordance with separation authorities per MCO 1900.16 CH2 Separation and Retirement Manual

For those 18XX Marines requesting to IST, commands may submit group packages for several Marines with one O-5/O-6 level command endorsement to MMSR-2 (Enlisted: SMB.Manpower.MMSR2E@usmc.mil / Career Designated Officers: SMB.Manpower.MMSR2O@usmc.mil) and MMOA-3 for non-Career Designated Officers (smbmanpowerofficerpr@usmc.mil). See Chapter 2 of the Separation and Retirement Manual, Figure 3-1 for content and format. General Officer endorsement requirement is waived for all packages. Officers will submit IST packages per SECNAVINST 1000.7G Interservice Transfer of Officers.

Beginning in FY21, TERA may be approved per MARADMIN 135/19 Marine Corps Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA) Program for qualified Marines in MOSs identified in the above paragraphs.

For those in MOSs identified above that are currently eligible for IST, TERA, and Time-in-Grade Waivers, packages are due to M&RA no later than 30 September 2020. Additional submission timelines will be provided in the respective subsequent MARADMINs scheduled for release in June. Consideration is also being given to the future use of Voluntary Separations Pay (VSP), Voluntary Enlisted Early Release Program (VEERP), and Officer Voluntary Early Release (OVER).

With regard to Enlisted and Officer Assignments, MARADMIN 278/20 provides direction for all activating and deactivating units. M&RA will continue to issue orders in accordance with MCO 1300.8 Marine Corps Personnel Assignment Policy. Both MMEA and MMOA will issue orders consistent with the needs of the Marine Corps while considering the career progression and desires of each Marine. M&RA may authorize tour curtailment as necessary.

The following applies to Marines with a primary MOS (PMOS) identified in paragraph above:

Sergeants and below. FY20 monthly promotions for sergeants and below will be the last promotion opportunity for these Marines. Marines are authorized to apply for voluntary lateral move to another PMOS; Marines seeking a lateral move must meet the requirements of their desired PMOS per NAVMC 1200.1E Military Occupational Specialties Manual. Corporals and below with greater than 24 months time remaining on contract may be reclassified into a new PMOS based on the needs of the service without incurring additional service obligation per the forthcoming FY21 MOS Reclassification and Directed Lateral Move Boards MARADMIN scheduled for release in June 2020. Beginning in FY21, continued service beyond current expiration of current contract (ECC) will be contingent upon lateral move or reclassification and acceptance of a new PMOS for which they meet the prerequisites. Furthermore, there are no promotion opportunities for sergeants and below beginning in FY21.

Staff Sergeants and above. FY20 Promotion Boards for staff sergeants and gunnery sergeants will be the last promotion opportunity for Marines with the MOSs listed earlier. There are no promotion opportunities for staff sergeants in FY21 and beyond. MOS 1869 and 2146 gunnery sergeants will remain eligible for promotion to first sergeant; 2146 gunnery sergeants will remain eligible for promotion to master sergeant in the 2149 PMOS. Marines are authorized to apply for voluntary lateral move to another PMOS. Those staff sergeants and gunnery sergeants choosing to continue service in the 1812,



# Mojave Desert critters are out

**Story by: Laurie Pearson**  
COMMSTRAT Chief

Spring and summer bring increased temperatures and increased wildlife activity aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

"All wildlife get active in the spring, to include: desert tortoise, fox, coyote, birds, insects, snakes, lizards, rabbits, etc.," said Benjamin Cody Leslie, Natural Resources specialist on base. "Animals come out in the spring to take advantage of the resources. Tortoises, for example, are active as the annual wildflowers that they rely on are in bloom and only for a brief time. So, they are eating as much as they can before they dry up. Also, birds are migrating and mating. Therefore, many migratory birds are in our area as they move to their home ranges for the season. For wildlife, it is often 'feast or famine', you have to 'get while the getting is good!'"

This also means that snakes are coming out of their winter dens and can be seen in the desert, on

dogs for walks more than usual, so their chances of encountering wildlife may have increased. If someone encounters wildlife while out on their property, or engaging in some other activities, the guidance is to leave it alone.

"Observe, and enjoy from a safe distance," Leslie said. "Do not pick up or touch wildlife, even if you think it needs your help."

If the goal is to observe wildlife on base, the golf course is good area to do so, as water is available at the golf course. Therefore, many animals frequent that area. Remember, though, that the Marine Memorial Golf Course is now open for use, so wildlife observers want to stay out of the way of flying golf balls, and ensure they do not interfere with ongoing games.

"Most wildlife activity occurs in the morning and evening," Leslie said. "For nocturnal animals, they will be out at night. If out walking at night it is important to remember that snakes will lay out on the asphalt to warm their bodies, so pay attention for your safety and that of your pets."

Have a camera ready so that if you see a critter, you can take a photo. This can not only be a fun way to educate yourself and your family on desert wildlife, but if assistance is needed, it can also help to properly identify the snake, spider, scorpion or other creature. **SOME LOCAL PLACES TO GO PHOTOGRAPH WILDLIFE:** Afton Canyon, Sawtooth Canyon, Owl Canyon, Rainbow Canyon, Pisgah Lava Tubes.

"All of these are close to Barstow and offer different types of habitat to explore," Leslie said. "Several of these areas have developed campgrounds and wildlife viewing points. Check with the local Bureau of Land Management office for the most up to date info regarding access. However, you can find cool things in the desert right outside your door! Just get out and explore. Remember not to touch, disturb, or feed wildlife and to always take your trash home with you. ... 'Pack It In, Pack It Out!'"

**SOME OF THE CRITTERS FOUND IN THE BARSTOW AREA:**

- Snakes: Both venomous and non-venomous. Non-venomous include: Red Racer (coach whip), Great Basin gopher snake, Northern Desert night snake, Spotted leaf-nosed snake, Western patch-nosed snake. Venomous include: Sidewinder, Speckled Rattlesnake, and the Mojave Rattlesnake.

- Scorpions: desert hairy scorpion, sting will hurt, but not life threatening.

- Spiders: Black Widow, Brown Widow, Desert Recluse, Brown Recluse, Sun Spider (Vinegaroon).

- Birds: Red-tailed hawk, Cooper's hawk, Great horned owl, Greater Road Runner, Gambel's quail, Mourning and white winged Dove, loggerhead shrike, brewers sparrow, to name a few.



Photo courtesy: Behavioral Health Staff

*This sidewinder rattlesnake was found curled up beside a driveway in housing aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. If you spot snakes such as this on base, call the "trouble desk" at 577-6220 and Pest Control specialists will come retrieve and move the snake in a timely and safe manner. Do not attempt to touch or move the snake.*

walkways, driveways and other areas as they seek food or other needs.

"It's possible, too, now that people are home due to COVID-19, they may have had some time to actually see more of what is going on around them," Leslie said. "These animals have always been present, but now peoples' lives have slowed down so they have had a chance to observe."

In some cases, people are engaging in socially-distanced hiking or taking



# t and about: Watch your step!

- Bobcats, coyotes, desert kit fox. Badgers are elusive, but present in the desert.
- Lizards: desert iguana, whiptail, zebra tail, desert horned lizards.

"All the animals are part of the ecosystem and make up the biodiversity in the desert," Leslie said. "Biodiversity is everything from genes, species, and ecosystems. Each piece is interconnected and provides a specific function. Take the desert tortoise for example, it digs burrows in which many other species inhabit, such as burrowing owls. When we remove one piece from the system, we alter the natural cycle which often creates more problems. It is important to the military to ensure biodiversity and the environmental health of Department of Defense lands to ensure realistic and sustainable military training and testing."

Although some species such as snakes, spiders, and scorpions are potentially scary and dangerous, they are also good for the environment and ecosystem, as they help control rodent and other pest populations. Snakes eat many rodents that are vectors for disease. Spiders kill many pest insects such as flies. However, it is important to respect that this is their home. If these creatures are becoming a nuisance or need to be removed please call the trouble desk for pest control assistance.

It is important to note that it is illegal to kill any protected species, such as Desert Tortoise.

"In order to hunt, a State issued hunting license must be obtained from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife," Leslie advised. "(To Collect) reptiles a State issued fishing license is required. As with hunting, all regulations and seasons must be followed. For more information on hunting and fishing see [www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov). In regards to rattlesnakes, do not kill them, call the "trouble desk" and pest control will safely remove the snake and release it in the wild."

Some of the desert critters have unique qualities that make them especially interesting to some, such as king snakes.

"If you are not fond of rattlesnakes, then you should like king snakes, as they will prey on rattlesnakes," Leslie said. "All snakes, whether poisonous or not, are beneficial as they help keep the rodent population in check which in turn keeps other vectors such as ticks and mite populations down thus reducing the possible transmission of disease to humans."

For those who like to garden, the local gophers are the main predator of your garden!

"I am not a master gardener, but have had pumpkins destroyed one year," Leslie said. "It was mid-summer and pumpkin plants were getting big, when gophers chewed the vines! It was so maddening! If people want to garden, I would recommend raised beds with a fine mesh screen on the bottom so that gophers cannot tunnel up. Chicken wire is too wide, it needs to be



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

*A horned lizard poses for a photo during a trek in the Mojave Desert east of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 27.*

small enough to prevent the gopher from squeezing through, but still allow roots to grow down and allow water to infiltrate."

This may be a good time to highlight the benefits of snakes for gardeners. They are the natural pest control and prey on those pesky gophers.

"If I had a resident snake around my property, there would be no gophers or other rodents," Leslie said. "If interested, the UCCE Master Gardeners of San Bernardino County has great information on all things gardening."

Part of gardening is watering those plants, and as is always the case, wildlife will seek out water wherever it is available.

"In the desert water can be found in the form of springs, or a garden, or on base, it can be found at the golf course," Leslie said. "Animals will also look to shelter in areas with little to no human activity, or in dark, cool areas during the summer."

One common concern is the chance of being bitten or stung. One of the most common ways these injuries happen is by putting their hands or feet in places where there are no clear lines of visibility. For instance, it is wise to avoid putting hands into dens, or holes in trees, or up on a rocky ledges. Be sure to see where you are putting your feet, as well, and ensure you do not step into tall grasses, or tangled brushy areas where critters may be hiding.

"People should avoid putting their hands in

Cont. on page 11



# Modified recreation opportunities offered

Story by: Laurie Pearson  
COMMSTRAT Chief

With federal and state protocols changing with regard to COVID-19, recreational activities are reopening with modified requirements aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

"We are seeing a lot of golfers coming out and taking advantage of the great weather, and getting in a few holes," said Mike Berg, Marine Memorial Golf Course manager. "In addition to social distancing, which golf lends itself to naturally, we've made a few other modifications. For instance, we typically leave a bottle with sand at each of the holes, so when someone creates a divot they can fill it themselves. To keep things sanitary, we are no longer leaving the bottles. So, I and my team go around filling the divots instead."

People are also required to wear a face covering before entering the Pro Shop. Golfers are also asked not to share a golf cart with someone who doesn't already live



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

*Golfers take to the course, engaging in socially distanced rounds of golf at the Marine Memorial Golf Course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 20. Some new protocols are in place to keep golfers healthy, without interfering with their ability to enjoy their time on the golf course.*

with them.

Leatherneck Lanes is also reopened and the staff are excited to see Marines and families returning to use the facilities.

"I love these people," said Geraldine McWilliams, recreation assistant. "We love to chat while they bowl or order their food. We've spent a lot of time sanitizing things and making some changes so that it's safe for them to use."

One of the modifications required at the bowling alley is that people use only three of the six available lanes. That allows for better social distancing.

"Face coverings are required when entering the building, and to conduct business at the counter," said Jennifer Thrasher, Leatherneck Lanes manager. "Face coverings may be removed when entering the bowling area with your party."

They are offering food for

take-out only at this time, as well.

They will also be starting up several popular bowling events and programs over the next few weeks.

"Kids Bowl Free is an awesome promotion that we offer," Thrasher said. "Parents can sign up by going on [www.kidsbowlfree.com](http://www.kidsbowlfree.com). This registers their child for two games of 'Bowling for Free,' Wednesdays through Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. during the summer (June 1 – August 14). The site is open for registration at our center now. It's exciting for the kids and parents can save money, too!"

Other events soon to start back up are Screens and Strikes during which a movie plays on a big, drop-down screen while bowlers enjoy a few games, as well as Warrior Wednesdays and Friday Night Lights. Stay tuned for more information about those programs. They will also re-start the co-ed and men's bowling leagues as soon as they are able.

"We've really spent a lot of time making things as safe as possible for people so that they can come

**Cont. on page 11**



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Families are able to enjoy the Oasis Pool and Water Park once again while maintaining social distance, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 27.



# Conning consumers during COVID-19

Story compiled by: Keith Hayes  
COMMSTRAT Planner

The strictures placed on society by the COVID-19 pandemic

has given rise to a whole new breed of confidence artists, hucksters, and thieves trying to take advantage of the confusion caused by this disaster.

To combat the fraud, the United States Department of Justice National Center for Disaster Fraud has opened the NCDF hotline to receive reports of fraud and abuse specifically related to the novel Coronavirus.

United States Attorney General William Barr in a May 20 media release “urged the public to report fraud schemes related to COVID-19 by contacting the NCDF hotline at 866-720-5721 or by emailing the NCDF at [disaster@leo.gov](mailto:disaster@leo.gov).”

The media release from Barr through the DOJ indicates the NCDF can receive and enter fraud complaints into a centralized system that can be accessed by all U.S. Attorneys, as well as Justice Department litigating and law enforcement components to identify, investigate and prosecute fraud schemes. The NCDF coordinates complaints with 16 additional federal law enforcement agencies, as well as state Attorneys General and local authorities.

Information provided by the DOJ website indicates that Attorney General Barr has also directed all U.S. Attorneys to prioritize the investigation and prosecution of Coronavirus-related fraud schemes. A Coronavirus Fraud Coordinator is being established for each state to serve as the legal counsel for the federal judicial district on matters relating to the Coronavirus, direct the prosecution of Coronavirus-related crimes, and to conduct outreach and

awareness.

Some examples of reportable fraud related to the COVID pandemic include:

- Individuals and businesses selling fake cures for COVID-19 online and engaging in other forms of fraud.
- Social media scams and telephone calls fraudulently seeking donations for illegitimate or nonexistent charitable organizations requesting you to enter your bank account information to provide COVID-19 health treatment for underprivileged individuals. Do not click on any email link in these emails or texts. It could be an attempt to infect your computer with malicious software.
- Phishing emails - Attempts by bad actors posing as representatives of the World Health Organization or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to obtain bank account numbers, Social Security numbers, passwords, credit card numbers, and other personally identifiable information.
- Be aware of unsolicited requests for your Medicare information, even if they are accompanied by offers of “free” COVID-19 tests or supplies, or an email or call by someone claiming to be a representative from Medicare or the Department of Health and Human Services. Scammers may use your Medicare information to submit false medical claims for unrelated, unnecessary, or fictitious services.
- Be on the lookout for an increase in cryptocurrency fraud schemes including but not limited to blackmail attempts, work from home scams, paying for non-existent treatments or equipment, or investment scams. Cryptocurrency is a digital currency for online use.
- Be wary of unsolicited telephone calls and

emails from individuals claiming to be IRS and Treasury employees. Remember the IRS’s first form of communication is by postal mail - not by phone. The caller may claim that you received an overpayment of the stimulus money and demanding a “refund” of the difference. Consumers may be threatened with adverse consequences such as fines, forfeiture, or arrest if they refuse to refund the money. Callers may demand payments by requiring you to buy iTunes, Google Play, or Steam cards, or by money transmission such as Western Union or MoneyGram.

• Attempts to steal Economic Stimulus Checks issued for COVID-19 relief over the phone, through postal mail, or

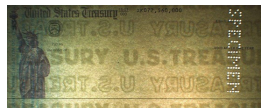
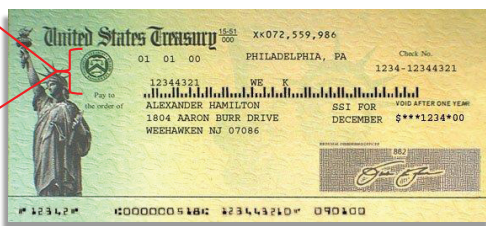
**Treasury Seal**  
The new seal reflecting “Bureau of the Fiscal Service” has replaced the old one. The old seal, reflecting “Financial Management Service” will be seen in rotation until this check stock runs out.



**Bleeding Ink**  
The Treasury seal, located to the right of the Statue of Liberty contains security ink that will run and turn red when moisture is applied to the black ink of the seal.

**Microprinting**  
Microprinted words are so small they appear as just a line to the naked eye. However, when magnified, they become visible. Microprinting cannot be duplicated by a copier and when a check is counterfeited, it will often show up as a solid line or a series of dots. The U.S. Treasury check has one area on the back of where microprinting is used with the words “USAUSAUSA.”

## U.S. TREASURY CHECK SECURITY FEATURES



**Watermark**  
All U.S. Treasury checks are printed on watermarked paper. The watermark reads “U.S. TREASURY” and can be seen from both the front and back of the check when held up to a light. The watermark is light and cannot be reproduced by a copier. Any check not having the watermark should be suspected as being counterfeit or copied.

WARNING: DO NOT CASH CHECK WITHOUT NOTING TO VERIFY WATERMARK. HOLD TO LIGHT TO VERIFY WATERMARK. Forging or reproducing on Treasury Checks is a Federal crime. Maximum penalty is \$1,000,000 fine and ten years imprisonment (18 USC).

USAUSAUSAUSAUSA



**Ultraviolet Overprinting**  
A protective ultraviolet pattern, invisible to the naked eye, consisting of four lines of “FMS” bracketed by the FMS Seal on the left and the United States Seal (eagle) on the right. This pattern can usually be found under the payee information and dollar amount area. The FMS pattern and seals can be detected under a black light. If the amount box is shaved or altered in any way, a space will be created in the ultraviolet area. When exposed to black light, the ink used in the pattern and the seal will glow. This fluorescent quality cannot be photocopied.

As of October 2013, a new ultraviolet pattern was introduced into the check stock consisting of four lines of “FISCALSERVICE” (see below). Also, the seal has been changed to read “Bureau of the Fiscal Service”. Either one of these ultraviolet patterns may be seen until the prior check stock runs out.



You may verify check issue information using the Bureau of the Fiscal Service Treasury Check Verification Application (TCVA) at: <https://tcva.fiscal.treasury.gov>.

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## Cont. from pg. 5, MARADMIN

1869, or 2146 PMOS may submit and be considered for reenlistment in their PMOS until they are TERA or retirement eligible as long as they meet basic retention prerequisites. MOS 1869 master sergeants may reenlist to obtain retirement eligibility. Marines with greater than 20 years time in service will have their retention request returned with no further action. Marines approved for reenlistment as 1812, 1869, or 2146 will be assigned PCS or PCA orders based on needs of the Marine Corps; those not approved for reenlistment will be allowed to separate from the Marine Corps in accordance with separation authorities or retire if eligible per Ref (d). More senior Marines will be allowed to separate from the Marine Corps in accordance with separation authorities or retire if eligible per Separation and Retirement Manual. Furthermore, TERA may be approved per Ref (f) and paragraph 3.F.

Marine Officers. For all company-grade officers with the PMOS of 1802 and a percentage with the PMOS of 5803, career designation and/or continued service will be contingent upon acceptance of a

new PMOS per MARADMIN 179/20 FY20 Officer Retention Board Number 1 Results. Additionally, officers in the MOSs identified in above may be allowed to apply for lateral move per the forthcoming FY21 Lateral Move MARADMIN scheduled for release in June 2020. Officers may also resign their commission upon completion of obligations or retire if eligible per the Separation and Retirement Manual. MOS 1802 captains and majors are eligible for inter-service transfer per SECNAVINST 1000.7G; these officers may apply for IST in accordance with the timeline listed earlier but will not execute until completion of their initial contractual service obligation. More senior majors and lieutenant colonels may be allowed to retain their PMOS and will be assigned PCS or PCA orders based on needs of the Marine Corps until retirement eligible. Furthermore, TERA may be approved per Ref (f) and paragraph 3.F.

For more information see MARADMIN 302/20 at <https://www.marines.mil/News/Messages/MARADMINS/>. Bottom of Form



## Cont. from pg. 9, COVID-19 fraud

via email.

- People trying to steal bank information by posing as government agents trying to verify if have received the COVID-19 stimulus check or by making last minute changes to how you deposit the physical stimulus check.

If you have opted to receive a physical stimulus check rather than direct deposit to your account, it is incumbent on you to verify if you are actually getting the physical official U.S. Treasury stimulus check by looking for the safeguards built into the document to prevent photocopying or other kinds of illegal duplication.

These safeguards include:

Official Treasury seal: Look for the new official Treasury seal. Also check to see if there is any red ink bleeding from the seal which can happen if you apply moisture to the seal in an attempt to try and duplicate it.

Watermark: All U.S. Treasury checks are printed on watermarked paper. The watermark reads "U.S. TREASURY" and can be seen from both the front and back of the check when held up to a light. The watermark is very faint and cannot be reproduced by a copier. Any check not having the watermark should be suspected as being counterfeit or copied.

Ultraviolet Overprinting: As of October 2013, a new ultraviolet pattern was introduced into the check stock, invisible to the naked eye, consisting of four lines of "FMS" (Financial Management Service) bracketed by the FMS Seal on the left and the United States Seal (eagle) on the right. This pattern can usually be found under the payee information and dollar amount area. The FMS pattern and seals can be detected under a black light. If the amount

box is shaved or altered in any way, a space will be created in the ultraviolet area. When exposed

to black light, the ink used in the pattern and the seal will glow. This fluorescent quality cannot be photocopied.

You can also verify if you have been issued the stimulus check by going online to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service Treasury Check Verification Application (TCVA) at: <https://tcva.fiscal.treasury.gov>.

Law enforcement has seen fraud schemes using smartphone apps or websites that claim to be a government office associated with CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security) programs. These fake sites are requesting PII, including banking information to deposit stimulus payments.

Contact tracing plays a vital role in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. However, this has created an opportunity for fraudulent "contact tracers" to send out text messages to try and get the victim to enter PII that can be used to loot bank accounts. Legitimate contact tracers use investigative techniques to follow a COVID-19 infected individual back to the original point of where they were infected.

Find out more about these scams and how to protect yourself by visiting [fbi.gov/coronavirus](https://fbi.gov/coronavirus) and the Federal Trade Commission at [FTC.gov/coronavirus](https://ftc.gov/coronavirus).

Criminals will likely continue to use new methods to exploit COVID-19 worldwide. Stay alert and stay informed about common fraud schemes related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Information in this article was collected from a number of sources including:

<https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>;

<https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus>;

<https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus/combatingfraud>;

<https://tcva.fiscal.treasury.gov>.





## Cont. from pg. 7, Critters



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

*A roadrunner takes advantage of the perfect weather and joins golfers on the course at Marine Memorial Golf Course aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 20.*

anything they can't see," Leslie said. "If entering a dark place, make noise so as to scare anything that may possibly be present. Base residents should not leave any water or food out for their pets. These are subsidies for wildlife and they will be attracted to it. All trash should be covered and no running water should be left

on outside. It is also important to keep pets away from wildlife and keep all the pets' vaccines current."

If someone is stung, or bitten, there are some basic protocols that can help. If bitten by a rattlesnake, stay calm and seek help immediately.

"Call 911 on the way to Barstow Hospital's emergency room," Leslie said. "Do NOT put a tourniquet on the injured limb. Do not try and suck out the venom. Try to get proper identification of the snake for emergency personnel. Use that camera and take a photograph if possible."

If bitten or stung by some other critter, watch for an allergic reaction which can happen quickly and be very serious.

"If you know you have an allergy, keep injectable epinephrine and a friend with you at all times," Leslie advised. "If possible, kill the spider and safely transport it with you (such as in a zip lock bag) to the medical facility for identification. Wash the area with soap and water. Seek medical attention if symptoms are at all alarming."

On base, if critters should show up, call Pest Control and they will handle all pest matters. A work ticket can be submitted at the "trouble desk" at 577-6220. If a desert tortoise is encountered or a raven is observed nesting on or near any building, please contact 760-577-6744 for special handling.



## Cont. from pg. 7, Recreation

and enjoy bowling with us again and we are looking forward to this gradual return to a new normal," Thrasher said.

The Oasis Pool and Water Park has also reopened for use by those with base access. There are a few modifications that will make swimming a bit safer for all during this time.

Axel Rivera recreation specialist supervisor, noted that, although the pool is now open for use, with some modifications, there have been just a few families who have decided to take the opportunity to enjoy some pool time fun.

"It's been slow, but I'm sure it will pick up a bit," Rivera said. "We've sanitized everything that needs to be cleaned, and we are keeping a close eye on people as they come in to ensure that they're aware of some of the changes we've put in place. One is that a parent must be in the water with their children,

rather than just watching from the seating area. That way they can actively engage their children and keep them together. The families need to stay together and remain distanced from others who are there to enjoy the pool, as well. For now there won't be any water basketball games, or anything of that sort. Over time, I'm sure we will work toward a new normal that we can all embrace



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

*Sergeant Kersey Haynes, administration chief, throws a bowling ball down the alley as Marines join with one another to build teamwork and unit cohesion while bowling together at Leatherneck Lanes aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., May 21.*

while enjoying being out here, enjoying the pool and getting some of that Vitamin D from the sun."







## Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

**To preserve the health and welfare of base employees  
and to help limit the spread of COVID-19  
the following are changes to base activities and areas of function.**

### Postponed or Closed

#### Postponed or closed

- Self-Defense Classes
- Spin Classes
- Wellness Series
- Swim Lessons
- LINKS Coffee Chats
- Play Mornings
- ITT
- Pass & ID Nebo 101, Yermo 406

### Modified Hours and Services

#### Leatherneck Lanes Bowling Alley

- Sun 12p.m.-6:30p.m.; Weds-Thurs 11:30a.m.-6p.m.; Fri 12:30p.m.-7p.m.; Sat 12p.m.-6:30p.m.
- Face coverings required, food sold to-go only, call for more details: 760-577-6264

#### Marine Memorial Golf Course open with conditions:

- Call for details - 760-577-6431

#### Semper Fit Gym:

- Open to active duty personnel, their dependents & permanent base employees, 5a.m.-6p.m.
- Combat room open 24/7 for AD, police and fire only.

#### SMP/Rec Center:

- Single Marines only, no guests
- M-F 11a.m.-1p.m. and 3p.m.-7:30p.m.
- Sat & Sun 11a.m.-5p.m.

#### Oasis Pool:

- Tues-Fri 11a.m.-1p.m. Lap swim/Unit PT; 1p.m.-7p.m. Recreational swim
- Sat & Sun 11a.m.-7p.m. Recreational swim

#### Library:

- Open 8a.m.-11a.m.

#### Route 66 Cafe:

- Open for dine-in service JUNE 1. Can also orders in ahead at 760-577-6428.

#### Entrance Gates:

- Gate guards will not handle your CAC when entering base, but should still scan it

#### Pass & ID 236:

- Appointment only

#### Commissary:

- Open every Tuesday 9a.m.-9:30a.m. for active duty and spouses only
- Open Tues - Sat 0930-1800 for everyone else eligible. IDs will be verified.

#### Behavioral Health

- Telehealth - Call for support 577-6533

**For additional information about the base go to: <https://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>**

**For a complete list of MCCA hours and services impacted go to: <http://mccsbarstow.com/Impact/>**